IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Best et al. Group Art Unit: 2163

\$ \$ \$ \$ Serial No.: 10/697,899 Examiner: Ho, Binh Van

Filed: **October 30, 2003** Confirmation No.: 9243

> § §

For: Method And Apparatus For Increasing

Efficiency of Data Storage In a File System

Attorney Docket No.: AUS920030792US1

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

No fees are believed to be required. If, however, any fees are required, I authorize the Commissioner to charge these fees which may be required to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447. No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, an extension of time is required, the extension is requested, and I authorize the Commissioner to charge any fees for this extension to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447.

In response to the Office Action of December 27, 2007, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.